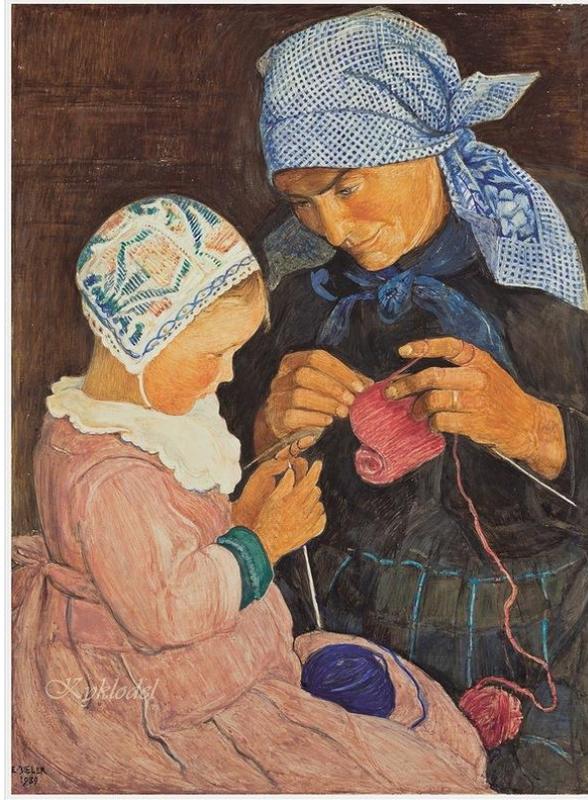


HUNTERDON COUNTY KNITTING AND CROCHETING GUILD NEWSLETTER



ARTWORK BY ERNEST BIELER

MAY 2019

OUR MEETINGS

Meetings are held at Raritan Township Police Station multi purpose room. Our meetings this month will be on Fridays, May 17th and 24th , 2019, from 10am until 2pm. Business meetings occur at the beginning of the meeting on third Fridays.

MEMBERSHIP

Our membership stands at 53 paid members. Dues are \$15 per year. Welcome to new members Jean and Virginia!

APRIL 2019 PRESIDENTS' LETTER

Memories, memorials, remembrances, souvenirs....

Our March program focused on this topic, even though we may not have realized that we were doing just that. Our loosely defined theme was “a trip down memory lane”. We brought in the first items that we had made or an item that was made by someone close to us. However, what we brought in to share with each other was so much more than that.

Sadly, as many of us need to do, I have attended several different “memorial” services for a friend or family member over the past several months. The liturgies (one Catholic and the other Jewish) focus on several themes: honoring the deceased, assuring the mourners that their loved ones are in a “better place” and providing hope that a joyful reunion will take place in the future.

What our March program demonstrated to me was that, in many ways, we are “reunited” with our loved ones in the past every time we gaze upon an item that their hands created; knitted, crocheted, tatted, cross-stitched, needlepointed, beaded. At the Jewish memorial service I attended, the rabbi said that our conversations with those that went before us are never finished. The dialogue continues on as we remember. Many people are remembered by their deeds, or their descendants. We also have “the work of their hands”, a real, tangible manifestation of their lives.

Happy Mother’s Day to all of you, and to all of the mothers and grandmothers who passed these gifts on to us.

Sue

MAY 2019 PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

Spring seems to be here and if April showers bring May flowers, we can expect an abundance of blooms. During our first meeting on May 17th, please bring a knitting or crocheting resource you have found especially helpful. With such a variety of choices, your resource might be a book, a DVD, a YouTube video (just a title or address to help us find it ourselves), a website, a blog, a magazine or pamphlet, or even a class you might recommend. Our meeting the following week, May 24th, will provide time for working on one of your current projects. Please remember to bring any project (work-in-progress or completed) for Show and Tell. We hope to see you in May.

Here are events you may also be interested in attending:

- Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival: May 4-5
- New Hampshire Sheep and Wool: May 11-12
- Long Island Fleece and Fiber: May 18-19
- Central Penn Fiber Festival: May 18-19

Doris

STITCHING TRIVIA OF THE MONTH

An excerpt from “For My Grandmother Knitting” by Liz Lochhead

...But now they say there is no need
the kids they say grandma
have too much already
more than they can wear
too many scarves and cardigans-

gran you do too much
there's no necessity...

at your window you wave them goodbye Sunday.
with your painful hands
big on shrunken wrists
swollen-jointed. Red. Arthritic. Old.
but the needles still move
their rhythms in the working of your hands easily
as if your hands remembered
of their own accord the pattern
as if your hands had forgotten how to stop.

This poem is wistful and evocative, but shows how the fierce beauty and nobility in making stitches with our hands and needles, then surrounding our treasured people with fibrous love.

Happy Mother's Day.



OUTREACH AND ONGOING PROJECTS

If you know of any local non-profit organizations who would benefit from knitted and crocheted items made by our members, please let us know so we may include them here, on the next page.

Warm Up America: An ongoing project, the goal of this nation-wide effort is to provide warm crocheted or knitted afghans to anyone in need. They are

distributed by The Red Cross and Salvation Army to victims of natural disasters, area homeless, and to families and individuals who have lost their homes and belongings due to fire, flood or tornadoes. Forty-nine blocks that measure 7" X 9" are joined together to complete an afghan. Use your leftover and stash yarn to make some 7"x 9" knitted and/or crocheted blocks and bring them to a meeting. Myra will continue to collect them throughout the year.

Knitted Knockers: You can find out information about donating knitted knockers for mastectomy patients at www.knittedknockers.org.

1898 SEAMENS' WATCH CAP PROJECT (idea provided by our member Rosemary G.), details for making and sending at:
<http://seamenschurch.org/sites/default/files/sci-1898-hat-kristine-byrnes-web-w-schematic.pdf/>

WIGS AND FUN HATS FOR CHILDREN

www.halokkeepers.org

TWIDDLE MUFFS FOR COGNITIVELY IMPAIRED PEOPLE

Refer to our recent email with the crocheted and knitted versions of the Twiddle Muff pattern attached, or you can also find the patterns by doing a Google search.

Please visit our website at www.hunterdonknitcrochet.com

and our Facebook page!

**HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY AND MEMORIAL
DAY!**